

**“The Earth on Turtle’s Back”** (Onondaga)  
**“When Grizzlies Walked Upright”** (Modoc)  
**from The Navajo Origin Legend** (Navajo)  
**from The Iroquois Constitution** (Iroquois)

## Grammar and Style: Compound Sentences

Writers often link related ideas in compound sentences. A **compound sentence** consists of two or more main clauses joined by a semicolon or a coordinating conjunction (usually *and*, *but*, or *or*). A **main clause** is a clause that can stand alone as a sentence. It expresses a complete thought and contains a **subject** (who or what the sentence is about) and a **predicate** (what the subject is or does).

<b>subj.</b>	<b>pred.</b>	<b>subj.</b>	<b>pred.</b>
She <u>swam deeper and deeper</u> ; <u>her lungs felt ready to burst</u> .			
<b>subj.</b>	<b>pred.</b>	<b>subj.</b>	<b>pred.</b>
<u>Her lungs felt ready to burst</u> , but <u>she swam deeper still</u> .			

**A. PRACTICE:** Use the method indicated in parentheses to combine each pair of sentences into a compound sentence. Write the compound sentences on the lines provided. Put one line under each subject and two lines under each predicate.

1. The grizzlies looked like they do today. They walked on two feet. (use *but*)

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2. The daughter looked for the ocean. She fell out of the mountain. (use *and*)

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3. The little girl could have died. The grizzlies could save her. (use *or*)

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**B. Writing Application:** Create your own compound sentences by adding a second main clause to each clause that follows. Use the combining method indicated in parentheses, and write the sentence on the lines provided.

1. The tiny bit of Earth fell on Turtle’s back (use *and*) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The Spirit Chief climbed back up the mountain (use a semicolon) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. The lords of the Confederacy must not be dishonest (use *but*) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. The wind could bring the ears of corn to life (use *or*) \_\_\_\_\_

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